

Snowmobile Operation

No snowmobile may be operated within State Park Areas on other than designated trails, roadways, and parking areas. Snowmobiles may also be operated during specified hours on the frozen surface of the following designated lakes unless otherwise closed: **Bluestem, Branched Oak, Conestoga, Olive Creek, Pawnee, Stagecoach, Wagon Train, Enders, Medicine Creek, Red Willow, and Swanson Reservoirs; Box Butte, Calamus Reservoir, Fremont Lakes, Gallagher Canyon, Johnson Lake, Lake Maloney, Lake McConaughy, Lake Minatare, Lake Ogallala, Lewis & Clark Lake, Louisville Lakes, Merritt Reservoir, Oliver Reservoir, Rockford, Sherman Reservoir, Summit, Sutherland Reservoir, Willow Creek and Walgren.**

Areas may be closed due to insufficient snow cover (less than 4 inches), insufficient lake ice (less than 8 inches), safety, weather, resource protection, civil emergencies or other management considerations at the sole discretion of the Commission.

The operation of snowmobiles on designated lake surfaces is at the sole risk of the operator. The Commission assumes no responsibility for safety of said operation. Snowmobile operators are responsible for inspecting frozen lake surfaces for sufficient ice thickness (minimum 8") and for possible hidden hazards prior to any such operation. Snowmobile operators are cautioned to be alert for soft ice caused by flowing springs, streams, and rivers, and also caused by variations in temperature.

Snowmobiles shall not be operated within any portion of a designated area which has been marked off or otherwise posted as closed to snowmobile operation by the Commission.

Snowmobiles shall not be operated in a manner intended to or reasonably be expected to harass, drive or pursue any wildlife.

Snowmobiles shall not be operated at speed exceeding that which is safe and reasonable when passing within thirty (30) yards of any property, ice fishing shelter, trail head, boat ramp, immobile snowmobile, or person walking on or fishing through the ice. In no case, shall any person or persons operate a snowmobile so as to cause discomfort, hazard or damage to the person or property of others.

Snowmobiles may be operated within state park areas only between the hours of one-half hour before sunrise and 9:00 p.m. or as posted.

Who may operate: No person under the age of twelve years may operate a snowmobile on state park lands unless accompanied by a parent, guardian or other person over eighteen years of age. No person over the age of twelve years and under the age of sixteen years shall operate a snowmobile on state park lands unless such person holds a valid snowmobile safety certificate or is accompanied by a person fourteen years of age or over who holds a valid snowmobile safety certificate, or is accompanied by a person over the age of eighteen years.

Unlawful Acts

It shall be unlawful for any person to drive or operate any snowmobile in the following unsafe or harassing way:

- At a rate of speed greater than reasonable or proper under existing conditions;
- In a careless, reckless, or negligent manner so as to endanger the person or property of another or to cause injury or damage thereto;
- While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or habit-forming drugs;
- Without a lighted head and tail lamp when required for safety; and;
- In a tree nursery or other area of new plantings in a manner which damages or destroys growing stock.

Snowmobiles are to registered and display appropriate decals and must display a valid park entry permit on state park and recreation areas. The entry permit is not required on lake surfaces of lakes classified as wildlife management areas, i.e. Enders, Medicine Creek, Red Willow, Swanson Reservoirs; Box Butte, Calamus Reservoir, Merritt Reservoir, and Sherman Reservoir. Snowmobiles using trail areas on private land leased by this agency are not required to display a park entry permit to use those trails.

All-Terrain Vehicle Operation

All-terrain vehicles may be operated during specified hours within state park areas on the frozen surfaces of the following designated lakes only, unless otherwise posted closed to such use: **Bluestem, Branched Oak, Conestoga, Olive Creek, Pawnee, Stagecoach, Wagon Train, Enders, Medicine Creek, Red Willow, and Swanson Reservoirs; Box Butte, Calamus, Fremont Lakes, Gallagher Canyon, Johnson Lake, Lake Maloney, Lake McConaughy, Lake Minatare, Lake Ogallala, Lewis and Clark Lake, Louisville Lakes, Merritt Reservoir, Oliver Reservoir, Rockford Lake, Sherman Reservoir, Summit Lake, Sutherland Reservoir, Willow Creek Lake and Walgren Lake.**

Areas may be closed due to insufficient lake ice (less than eight inches), safety, weather, resource protection, civil emergencies or other management considerations at the sole discretion of the Director.

The operation of all-terrain vehicles on designated lake surfaces is at the sole risk of the operator. The Commission assumes no responsibility for safety of said operation.

All-terrain vehicle operators are responsible for inspecting frozen lake surfaces for sufficient ice thickness (minimum 8 inches) and for possible hidden hazards prior to any such operation. All-terrain vehicle operators are cautioned to be alert for soft ice caused by flowing springs, streams, and rivers and also caused by variations in temperature.

All-terrain vehicles shall not be operated within any portion of a designated area which has been marked off or otherwise posted as closed to all-terrain vehicle operation by the Commission.

All-terrain vehicles shall not be operated in any manner intended to or reasonably be expected to harass, drive or pursue any wildlife.

All-terrain vehicles shall not be operated at speed exceeding that which is safe and reasonable when passing within thirty (30) yards of any property, ice fishing shelter, boat ramp, immobile snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle, or a person walking on or fishing through the ice. In no case, shall any person or persons operate an all-terrain vehicle so as to cause discomfort, hazard or damage to the person or property of others.

All-terrain vehicles may be operated on designated frozen surfaces within state park areas only between the hours of 1/2-hour before sunrise and 9:00 p.m., or as posted. **A bicycle safety flag which extends not less than five feet above ground must be attached to the rear of the vehicle.** The bicycle safety flag shall be triangular in shape with an area of not less than thirty inches and be day-glow in color.

Who may operate

Any person operating an all-terrain vehicle within a state park area shall be at least sixteen years of age and shall have a valid motor vehicle operator's license.

Unlawful acts

It shall be unlawful for any person to drive or operate any all-terrain vehicle in the following unsafe or harassing way:

At a rate of speed greater than reasonable or proper under existing conditions;

In a careless, reckless, or negligent manner so as to endanger the person or property of another or to cause injury or damage thereto;

While under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or habit-forming drugs; and,

Without a lighted head and tail lamp when required for safety.

ATV's are not licensable and do not require the park entry permit. ATV's are restricted to lake surface only for operation. Load and unload at boat ramps or closest shore location. The towing vehicle must have the entry permit on parklands.